

It was (I think) in 1875 that Swan River (some 10 miles beyond Fort Pelly) practically became for a brief season the Capital of the North West, but was soon abandoned for Battleford. During the short time that the Provincial Government was there it was my privilege to meet the Hon. David Laird, Mr. Forget, Col. Richardson, Judge Ryan, Col. and Mrs. French and other notables. On one occasion a policeman arrived at the Mission to get married, having travelled all the way from the Barracks with another of the Force, bringing the lady with him.

In those early days when barbarism still clung to some of the Indians, it sometimes happened that finding their old people a burden to them in their nomadic life, a poor aged creature would be abandoned by them, and if reports are correct, the castaway might afterwards be found dead. In the early Spring of 1876 a poor old Toto woman was thus refused support by her relatives, and she lived alone among the bluffs near the Mission, snaring rabbits and begging. One morning about three o'clock we were aroused by the barking of the dogs. It appears this woman had awakened in the night and found one of her arms useless. Thinking something dreadful had happened to her, she went to the top of a hill and began to shout in an agitated state of mind. We looked after her, and made some shelter for her during the rest of her life, which soon came to an end. At first ^{on} hearing the word of God she would laugh, but that same soul piercing sword of the Spirit soon smote her in the depths of her soul. She became converted to God and was baptised. She did not live long but went to be with Christ in a better Home. This was the first Indian buried in the cemetery which is now a veritable grave-yard.

At intervals, both in Winter and Summer visits were made to Fort Pelly, Long Lake and Fort Qu'Appelle, respectively. The old Chief "Pasqua" was a hard case both for the Government and the Mission. I think, he too, went all the way to Swan River to beg. In January 1877 a journey was undertaken to Pelly and Swan River. Was told the thermometer stood at 47 below. Mr. Forget kindly